

Longobardo, a respected member of the New York State Police, who was killed while serving his State.

A native of Amsterdam, New York, residing in Ballston Spa, Saratoga County, Trooper Longobardo, 32, is survived by his wife and 1-year-old son.

Trooper Longobardo, an 8-year veteran of the State Police, was a 1998 graduate of the New York State Police Academy, where he distinguished himself through his commitment of service to the Citizens of the State of New York.

Trooper Longobardo's commitment and dedication to protecting and serving the citizens of New York State was evidenced by his service in the elite Mobile Response Team. We recognize and thank Trooper Longobardo for his desire and dedication to the New York State Police Force.

Trooper Longobardo desire to serve his fellow Americans extended beyond his Police work, as he was also a Technical Sergeant in the New York Air National Guard, based out of Scotia, Schenectady County.

With great sadness, I, along with the Great State of New York and the United States at large, celebrate Trooper Joseph A. Longobardo achievements in life as we mourn his tragic passing in the line of duty. I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for offering me an opportunity to share with the House Trooper Longobardo's accomplishments and for allowing the chamber this chance to join the State of New York in honoring his life.

RECOGNIZES JEREMY REIS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeremy Reis, a Private in the Marine Corps.

Private Reis attended Lovejoy High School in Jonesboro, Georgia, transferring his senior year to Newton County High, graduating earlier this year in May. His original post-graduate plans were to study art and photography, but following the events of September 11, Private Reis felt the call to duty and enlisted in the Marine Corps. When his tour of duty is complete he hopes to attend art school and fulfill his dream.

Entering basic training in August 2006 at Parris Island, South Carolina, Private Reis is training to be a computer programming specialist.

Raised as part of a close knit family, Private Reis is a member of his Church Youth group and enjoys hunting with his father and brothers. He also enjoys visiting his grandparents at their home in Citrus County, Florida. Private Reis has five dogs, including a pug named Mojo and a boxer named Jordan.

Mr. Speaker, it is soldiers like Jeremy Reis who volunteer to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear to their hearts. He is to be commended for his service to our Nation and for his commitment to his family and loved ones.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND LOVED ONES OF VICTIMS OF CRASH OF COMAIR FLIGHT 5191

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Comair Flight 5191 and I join my colleagues in support of H. Res. 980. My deepest sympathies, thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of the victims of this tragic event that occurred in Lexington, Kentucky.

It is little solace to them that we have the safest air transportation system in the world, or that we had not had a major fatal accident in five years. Along with our support of this resolution, what Congress must do to honor these victims is to learn everything we can from this accident to try to prevent similar events in the future. Their lives will be remembered in the work we do here. As the ranking Democrat on the Aviation Subcommittee, I am committed to making sure this happens. The National Transportation Safety Board is conducting a thorough investigation of this accident, and I fully support its efforts, along with those of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, I again remember those that lost their lives in this accident and offer my condolences to their loved ones. I also urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 980.

RECOGNIZING MR. LEO McHALE AND MARYLAND'S FIRST PRIVATE 9/11 MEMORIAL

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of one of my constituents, Mr. Leo McHale, of Walkersville, Maryland, to honor the heroes of 9/11.

With community support, Mr. McHale created Maryland's first private memorial to remember and honor the heroes who responded to the terrorist attacks and those who perished on September 11, 2001. It was dedicated on May 10, 2003.

I personally would like to thank Mr. McHale and the Walkersville residents whose joint efforts and hard work are responsible for the completion of this commemorative project. In spite of the terrible losses on that cataclysmic day, it is important to recognize the astounding community efforts and cooperative response that symbolize the character, pride and unity of the American people.

With 9/11's 5th anniversary approaching, it is essential that the American people continue to remember the events that occurred when America was attacked on September 11, 2001. Through the efforts of Mr. Leo McHale—and so many others—we continue to keep the memory alive by honoring the heroes who responded and the men, women and chil-

dren whose lives were mercilessly and cruelly taken on 9/11.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RANDOLPH C. ROBINSON, M.D., D.D.S

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDI

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. TANCREDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated and inspiring career of Dr. Randolph Robinson. Dr. Robinson, along with his wife, Ginger, founded Face the Challenge. This charitable organization has provided thousands of free surgeries to the world's poorest children in order to correct facial deformities.

Dr. Robinson has used his medical knowledge and surgical skills to better the lives of many impoverished people around the world. Face the Challenge has traveled to many countries in South America, Eastern Europe and Asia with the goal of treating the indigent and most affected.

Dr. Robinson, who practices in Lone Tree, Colorado, has performed 836 free facial surgeries since 1993. His selfless contributions should be commended and his dedication to public service deserves our highest regard. I wish to thank Dr. Robinson for his tireless efforts to bring medical advances to the world's poor.

IN MEMORY OF SERGEANT JEFFREY SCOTT BROWN, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Army Sergeant Jeffrey Scott Brown, an American hero who gave his life in defense of liberty and freedom. He made the ultimate sacrifice so that others might know freedom, and I am humbled by his bravery and selflessness.

Sergeant Brown lost his life on August 10, 2006 due to injuries sustained when his UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter crashed in Rutbah, Iraq during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was 25 years old. Sergeant Brown was assigned to the 82nd Medical Company at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Sergeant Brown came from a family dedicated to American ideals and serving this great Nation. His father is a Vietnam veteran and his brother, Timothy, currently serves as a crew chief on an Apache helicopter in Germany. Sergeant Brown is survived by his wife, Ashley, of Carrollton, Texas; his parents, Ed and Diane Brown of Trinity Center, California; his brothers, Timothy and Michael; and his sister, Kathryn.

I extend my sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Sergeant Brown. He leaves behind a legacy marked by courage, integrity and character. May God bless all those he loved, and may they know the gratitude of the American people.

HONORING KATHRYN SWANSON

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kathryn Swanson, a dedicated public servant whose passionate commitment to highway safety has guided her throughout her career.

Kathy has been a leading, influential figure in highway safety for more than 25 years, working tirelessly to save lives and prevent injuries on our Nation's roads.

Since 1998, Kathy has served as director of Minnesota's Office of Traffic Safety in the state's Department of Public Safety. Prior to being director, she served as deputy director, safety program coordinator, and as a research analyst.

As one of the longest tenured members of the state highway safety community, Kathy's counsel is frequently sought by other states and organizations around the country.

In her role as director, Kathy administers the state and community highway safety grant programs in Minnesota. During her tenure, the state has achieved significant progress including an 83.9 percent seat belt usage rate, which is above the national average. The state also achieved its lowest fatality rate ever during Kathy's tenure.

Kathy has also worked tirelessly with her counterparts in the Minnesota Department of Transportation in a true partnership aimed at significantly reducing traffic fatalities in Minnesota. Today the Towards Zero Death program is the keystone of Minnesota's safety agenda, affecting the work of various state and local agencies and private sector partners.

Kathy's success in Minnesota, her strong commitment to highway safety and the respect and support of her state peers led to her election as Vice Chair of the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) in September 2002. GHSA is the nonprofit association representing the highway safety program managers of the states and the territories.

Following a leadership change in March of 2003, Kathy was elevated to Chair of GHSA, a position in which she served until the fall of 2004. Under Kathy's leadership, GHSA developed its positions on the reauthorization of our nation's surface transportation bill, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy For Users (SAFETEA-LU).

As Immediate Past Chair, Kathy continues her involvement in GHSA. In 2005, she represented the Association at a listening session for the White House Conference on Aging where she discussed the role of the state highway safety offices in enhancing the safety of older drivers. She also represented GHSA at the 2005 launch of the Ford/GHSA Driving Skills for Life teen driving safety program.

Kathy's work has no doubt prevented countless traffic fatalities and injuries in Minnesota and across the Nation. I am proud and honored to share with my colleagues this deserved tribute to Kathy Swanson, who gives so much of herself to enrich the lives of others and to serve her community and her country.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL
PATRICK T. HOWARD**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish a full and healthy recovery to Lance Corporal Patrick T. Howard, who suffered extensive injuries while on guard duty in Iraq on July 18.

Lance Corporal Howard was born and raised in Miami, and enlisted in the Marines directly after graduating from high school. In March of 2006, he was deployed to Ramadi, Iraq, and was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal.

I am deeply saddened about the grave nature of the injuries inflicted upon such a selfless young man from South Florida. The entire community is grateful to Lance Corporal Howard for his contributions in the struggle to spread liberty to Iraq, and values the sacrifices of all those currently defending our Nation overseas.

I ask that you please keep Lance Corporal Howard and his family in your thoughts and prayers as he completes the recovery process.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the following bills on September 6, 2006:

H.R. 2808, the Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin Act (Rollcall No. 427). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 605, a resolution recognizing the life of Preston Robert Tisch and his outstanding contributions to New York City, the New York Giants Football Club, the National Football League, and the United States (Rollcall No. 428). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 875, a resolution congratulating Spelman College on the occasion of its 125th anniversary (Rollcall No. 396). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE ROBINSON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Joyce Robinson of her service to the Social Security Administration and to congratulate her on her upcoming retirement.

Mrs. Robinson began her career in 1975 as a Claims Clerk in the Martinsburg, West Virginia Social Security Office. She has held 7 different positions, reaching the level of Special Disability Workload Cadre Manager in the Charleston, West Virginia Social Security Office.

Mrs. Robinson has been recognized numerous times for her outstanding leadership quali-

ties. Her immense knowledge of programs and great interpersonal communication skills led her to gain the distinction of being a liaison to her peers, as well as, to Congressional Staffs and entities outside the SSA office. She will be greatly missed as a helpful resource to me and my staff.

For her dedication and willingness to serve my constituents, the State of West Virginia, and surrounding states, I offer Mrs. Robinson my most sincere congratulations and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was attending a National Policy Conference in Los Angeles, and I could not be present, subsequently missing rollcall votes numbered 427, 428, and 429. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Aye" on rollcall No. 427, H.R. 2808, the "Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin Act,"

"Aye" on rollcall No. 428, H. Res. 605, "Recognizing the life of Preston Robert Tisch and his outstanding contributions to New York City, the New York Giants Football Club, the National Football League, and the United States," and

"Aye"—on rollcall No. 429, H. Res. 875, "Congratulating Spelman College on the Occasion of its 125th Anniversary."

IN HONOR OF MARY BOURDETTE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, with a heavy heart, I rise to honor the life of Mary Bourdette.

On September 5th, America lost one of its great champions for children and families. Mary Bourdette was a passionate and dedicated advocate and had an extraordinary 30 year career. Mary's tireless efforts improved the lives of countless children and families across the country.

I will personally miss her friendship, and the Nation will miss her devotion to children's welfare.

I first met Mary in California when she was working on improving education in the state. Mary and I then worked closely together when I chaired the House Select Committee on Children Youth and Families in the 1980's here in the House.

She was a skilled advocate and negotiator and her vision and persistence were critical to my efforts on child welfare policy and numerous other issues. Mary advocated for children and families in many capacities here in Washington, D.C. over the past 30 years. She worked for the Legal Services Corporation to help ensure that our poorest citizens have access to the legal system that our Constitution promises. She later worked tirelessly at the Children Defense Fund on the first major expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit and